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(*b*) The question whether distributing licences are to be granted to private companies in rural areas commanded by a State Hydro-Electric project or whether the Government should retain in their own hands the development of such areas is under consideration. If it is decided to adopt the former alternative, the suggestion of the hon. Member will be duly considered.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether it will not be better for the Government themselves to chalk out a programme of work for rural as well as urban areas and publish the same for the information of the public as one of the means of advance propaganda for the sale of power and also to insist on the licensees to develop according to the programme chalked out?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"Extensive service is already under the consideration of the Government. As regards the particular method suggested by the hon. Member, I do not know what to say."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"In answer to clause (*a*), it is said 'Yes.' I want to know, Sir, whether it does not conclusively prove the lack of interest on the part of the licensees to develop rural areas and the consequent futility of giving them licences for such areas?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"If it is profitable, certainly it is open to the licensees to see that they extend their operations as far as possible."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"If there is this lack of interest, will Government see that in future they insist on such conditions in the licence, or take up the work themselves with a view to give facilities to rural areas?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"The Government have no information as to the lack of interest on the part of these licensees."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether the Hon. Member would consider the suggestion contained in my question?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I have no objection to consider any suggestion coming from hon. Members; but whether we will be able to follow it up or not is another matter."

[*Note*.—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—RESOLUTION *RE* GUARANTEE IN RESPECT OF DEBENTURES ISSUED BY CENTRAL LAND MORTGAGE BANK—*cont.*

* The Hon. the President:—"Discussion will now continue on the resolution moved by the Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan on Saturday."

Mr. C. Basu Dev:—"With regard to this resolution, may I submit, Sir, that inasmuch as the annual report of the bank has been

supplied to us only just now, the further consideration of this resolution may be postponed to some other day during this meeting of the Council?"

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Has it been moved as a proposition?"

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"I made a suggestion to the Hon. the President. If he so desires, I shall move it as a proposition."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may choose to move it in the form of a motion, so that it may be discussed and put to the vote of the House."

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the further discussion of this resolution be taken up on the 8th instant. In support of this motion, I would like to say that the annual report on the working of the Land Mortgage Bank has just been placed in our hands. The resolution is calculated to commit the Government to a further amount of Rs. 50 lakhs, and I think, Sir, that it is but fair that this House should have the fullest opportunity not only to discuss the whole question but also to know what it discusses by having all the information available."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"In seconding this motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basu Dev, I have to bring two facts to the notice of this House. There were certain bonds at 4 per cent and others at 5 per cent interest. I do not know why the bank has redeemed 4 per cent bonds for Rs. 22,800 when they had 5 per cent bonds for redeeming. Just now, an unofficial copy of the report on the working of the bank—I feel it is only an unofficial copy because it has not been approved by the shareholders of the bank and it cannot yet be called the annual report under the Act,—has been given to us. We can go through the report and also study the several points raised by hon. Members on Saturday evening, if some time is given to us. I appeal to the Hon. Minister to give us an opportunity to study the report, so that we may be ready for discussing it one of these days. We can take up the City Municipal Bill now and so there won't be any waste of time on this account. I appeal to the Hon. Minister to accept this proposition."

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I have no objection, Sir, if the House wishes to have some more time to go through the annual report. The resolution may be taken up for consideration after the hon. Members have had such an opportunity. Originally I thought that if I answered the points raised by my friend, Mr. Choudari, the House would accept the resolution even now; but in view of the feeling expressed by my hon. Friends, I have no objection to accept this proposal. I hope the House will agree to this resolution being taken up on the 8th instant."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is that the further discussion of this resolution be taken up on the 8th instant."

The motion was put and carried.